

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The appendix includes twenty eight (28) sheets of replacement drawings for figures 1-18. The drawings submitted are in response to objections by the Draftsperson for lines, numbers, and letters not being uniformly thick; numbers and reference characters not plain and legible; numbers, letters and reference characters must be at least 1/8 inch in height; and lines cut through reference characters for some figures. The replacement sheets numbered 1 to 28 including figures 1-3, 4a, 4b, 5, 6a, 6b, 7-10, 11a, 11b, 12a, 12b, 13a, 13b, 14-17, 18a, 18b, 18c, 18d, 18e and 18f replace all original sheets numbered 1 to 17 including figures 1-17 and 18a and 18b.

Appendix: Twenty eight (28) Replacement Drawing Sheets

REMARKS

The applicant has amended the specification and has filed replacement drawings as set out above in the amendment sections and provides remarks set out below to address the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review which was sent with a notice of allowance mailed December 10, 2004. The amendments and replacement drawings are consistent with the disclosure originally filed. The amendments have also been particularly presented to avoid, where applicable, any admission or estoppel, generally, negatively effecting the scope of protection provided by the disclosure and claims of the present application, and particularly to avoid prosecution history estoppel, limitation of the scope of equivalences, or the like.

Drawings

The Draftsperson raised concerns with respect to the drawings. Applicant has attached to this response twenty eight (28) sheets of replacement drawings labeled "Replacement Sheet" believed to comply with the rules stated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.84. The replacement drawing sheets replace all of the original sheets including Figures 1 through 18. The applicant asserts that no new matter has been added by replacement of the drawings. Due to the objections, original figure 4 has been split up into two figures, 4a and 4b; original figure 6 has been split up into two figures, 6a and 6b; original figure 11 has been split up into two figures, 11a and 11b; original figure 12 has been split up into two figures, 12a and 12b; original figure 13 has been split up into two figures, 13a and 13b; and original figures 18a and 18b has been split up into six figures, 18a, 18b, 18c, 18d, 18e and 18f.

CONCLUSION

The applicant submits the issue fee and replacement drawings along with this amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 to address the additional sheets of replacement drawings in the description portion of the specification. The applicant respectfully requests entry of these amendments which do not require the examiner to make any further search or examination of the application and do not introduce any new matter into the application as originally filed.

Dated this 3 day of March, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,
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